

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, excuse me. (Gavel.) Please, may we have quiet, please. Senator Warner, excuse me.

SENATOR WARNER: I'd urge, Mr. President, that we support Senator Pappas in his motion to return the bill to strike the enacting clause and proceed with the study resolution that is in this session that would probably run a couple of years, but again, look at the role and mission through the legislative process rather than establishing another groups or series of committees and commissions over which no...almost all likelihood, nobody will pay any attention to.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator. (Gavel.) Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. President and members, I don't think I need to expand much on the points already made. I rise simply to support Senator Pappas's motion and do have some concerns about the need to coordinate higher education and I know that Senator Vickers has worked very hard in this area. I personally have to oppose this because I think we create a monster of a bureaucracy here which Senator Warner has already pointed out how expensive it might be and I'm not convinced that it will produce the desired outcomes. I think it's important that we participate in the role and mission study, consider what kind of appropriate coordinating mechanism might be out there, what our proper role as a legislature is, but not to enact this today. So I would support Senator Pappas's motion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, do you wish to speak again?

SENATOR WARNER: I made some mention, Mr. President, of some of the things. I know the proposed commission the director is appointed by the Governor. That makes the coordinator of higher education a political appointee. We've seen the benefit of that in the water program the last few years. The coordination of higher education is not a function or an activity that could change every time that you have a Governor or a new Governor elected, because if it is changed that often, you will have no long-term policy and those powers and the responsibilities of the director under this bill is essential for its success. So I would urge that the bill be returned and indefinitely postponed.

PRESIDENT: Senator Pappas, do you wish to close?

SENATOR PAPPAS: Mr. Speaker, probably in essence to save time,